



# TOWN OF ERIE NEWS FLASH

## Board of Trustees Action Items

For more information contact:  
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## Erie Board of Trustees Action Items

### November 11, 2014

**Utility Rate Fee Changes Set for 2015 through 2019** – The Board approved on Second Reading an ordinance adopting changes to the Town's utility fees based on the findings and recommendations of the recently completed Utility Rate Study. The Board selected the option they believe has the least impact on the most customers and incentivizes water conservation. The projected monthly change for the average residential utility account in 2015 will be \$1.91 or 1.7%.

BACKGROUND: Town of Erie financial policies require the Town to have a formal Utility Rate Study performed at least every five years. The last such study was conducted in 2008. In 2013, the Town contracted with Wildan Financial Services to perform the Utility Rate Study for the following funds: Water Fund; Wastewater (Sewer) Fund; Storm Drainage Operating Fund and Storm Drainage Impact Fund. More than fifteen scenarios were prepared by the consultant. Staff reviewed the results of these scenarios; assessing their impact on customers. On August 26th and September 30th of this year, staff presented to the Board those options believed to best provide a balance in achieving the various goals of the study. The Board selected the option they believe has the least impact on the most customers and incentivizes water conservation. The Board previously considered this ordinance on First Reading during their October 28, 2014 meeting.

The projected monthly change for the average residential utility account in 2015 will be \$1.91 or 1.7%.

The Utility Rate Study included all utility customer classifications (Residential, Commercial, Irrigation and Multi-Family). However, the summary below only addresses changes to the Residential & Multi-Family classifications.

#### PROJECTED CHARGES FOR ALL UTILITIES 2015 – 2019\*

	Water	Wastewater	Storm	Total	\$ Change	% Change
2014	\$56.50	\$48.48	\$5.00	\$109.98		
<b>2015</b>	<b>\$58.00</b>	<b>\$48.48</b>	<b>\$5.41</b>	<b>\$111.89</b>	<b>\$1.91</b>	<b>1.7%</b>
2016	\$60.90	\$48.48	\$6.60	\$115.98	\$4.09	3.7%
2017	\$63.95	\$48.48	\$8.05	\$120.48	\$4.50	3.9%
2018	\$66.51	\$48.48	\$9.82	\$124.81	\$4.33	3.6%
2019	\$68.51	\$48.48	\$11.98	\$128.97	\$4.16	3.4%

*\*Average is based on the middle 60% of all utility customers.*

- View the complete Utility Study Report presented last night [here](#).
- View the complete Utility Rate Study presentation presented on August 26, 2014 [here](#).

**Moratorium on Recreational Marijuana Businesses Extended** – During Tuesday night's meeting, the Board approved an ordinance extending the existing moratorium on recreational marijuana businesses



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until December 15, 2015. Nothing in the Moratorium alters or affects the rights of an individual 21 years of age or older to use, possess and grow a limited amount of marijuana as guaranteed by Amendment 64. The current moratorium was set to expire on December 31, 2014. The Board is seeking the extension to allow time for Staff to conduct research; review best management practices for regulating the industry and to conduct a survey of Erie residents.

**BACKGROUND:** In January of 2013, the Board approved an ordinance imposing a moratorium on recreational marijuana business. The moratorium extended through October 1, 2013. However, in August of 2013, the Board extended the moratorium through December 31, 2014.

Article XVIII, Section 16 of the Colorado Constitution authorizes local governments such as the Town of Erie, to prohibit the operation of marijuana facilities including: marijuana cultivation facilities; marijuana product manufacturing facilities, marijuana testing facilities and retail marijuana stores through the enactment of an ordinance. The Town may only regulate the business establishment facet of Amendment 64. The Town may not regulate or prohibit the individual use or growing as allowed by the Amendment. As such, it is important to keep in mind that nothing in the Moratorium alters or affects the rights of an individual 21 years of age or older to use, possess and grow a limited amount of marijuana as guaranteed by Amendment 64.

**Sierra Vista Rezoning Approved** – The Board approved on Second Reading a request from the property owners of the Sierra Vista development to rezone 40 acres of High Density Residential and 20 acres of Community Commercial to 54 acres of Low Density Residential and 6 acres of Community Commercial. Sierra Vista is located at the northwest corner of Highway 7 and Bonanza Drive.

### **AWARDS**

**International Economic Development Council Silver Excellence Award** – Economic Development Coordinator Paula Mehle presented Mayor Tina Harris with the Silver Excellence in Economic Development Award from the International Economic Development Council (IEDC). The award is in the category of New Media for communities with populations of less than 25,000 and recognizes Erie's efforts in creating an Economic Development mobile application for the ICSC convention. The Town of Erie was recognized with this award during the IEDC Annual Conference, which was held in October in Fort Worth, Texas. IEDC's Excellence in Economic Development Awards recognizes the world's best economic development programs and partnerships, marketing materials, and the year's most influential leaders. These awards honor organizations and individuals for their efforts in creating positive change in urban, suburban, and rural communities.



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*Photo: Mayor Tina Harris and Paul Mehle presenting the International Economic Development Council Silver Excellence Award.*

**Star Award** – The STAR Award has been created to recognize and express appreciation for services rendered by Town employees who demonstrate exceptional service and/or performance in one or more of the following categories: Customer Service; Safety; Creativity; Teamwork and Outstanding Achievement. During Tuesday night's meeting, Economic Development Coordinator Paula Mehle and Communications & Marketing Coordinator Katie Jenkins were recognized for outstanding achievement. Paula and Katie work behind the scenes week in and week out in support of the Town's overall economic development goals. Thanks to their efforts, Erie's profile within the retail development community has been dramatically heightened.



*Photo: Mayor Tina Harris, STAR Award Recipients Paula Mehle and Katie Jenkins*



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### Young Patriots



*Photo: Mayor Tina Harris with Cub Scout Pack #62 who were given Young Patriot awards for participating in the Pledge of Allegiance at the beginning of the meeting.*

View complete November 11, 2014 Board of Trustees Meeting Packet [here](#).

**Engage Erie** – View the most recent activity on the Town's new social engagement site, [Engage Erie](#).

**Upcoming Board of Trustees Meetings** – The Board of Trustees will meet in a Special Meeting on Tuesday, November 18, 2014 at 6:00 p.m. The next regularly scheduled [Board of Trustees](#) meeting will be on Tuesday, December 9, 2014 at 6:30 p.m. All meetings are held in the [Town Hall boardroom](#) located at 645 Holbrook Street in Erie.

**More Information** – Board of Trustees Action Items are brief summaries of some, but not all, agenda items and do not serve as the official meeting minutes. Select this link to view archived Board of Trustees meeting online via the [On Demand Video](#) service. To request approved meeting minutes of Board of Trustees meetings, please contact the Town Clerk's Office at [nparker@erieco.gov](mailto:nparker@erieco.gov).